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JUNE 28, 2012

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

safe drinking water act — south carolina state revolving fund

PROJECT: High Hills Rural Water Company
Booster Pump Station and Transmission Line
Sumter County

This Department, under Section 48-5-40 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, has the authority and responsibility to conduct environmental reviews and approve drinking water preliminary engineering reports (PER) prepared for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program. Our review has determined that implementation of the plan identified below will not cause a significant environmental impact and the Department hereby issues a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI).

This FNSI precedes approval of the PER entitled "Preliminary Engineering Report for Booster Pump Station" dated May 2012. The plan recommends the installation of a booster pump station with supplemental water supply line via a connection from the City of Sumter's existing water transmission main to the existing High Hills Rural Water Company's (HHRWC) water transmission main. HHRWC will implement the plan. The following Environmental Assessment summarizes the environmental effects of the proposed facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Need for New Facilities: The South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDOC) presently operates the Wateree River Correctional Institution (WRCI) on SC Highway 261 near Rembert, SC. To supply water service to the institution, WRCI currently operates and maintains Public Water System (PWS) No. 4370050 consisting of three wells serving a population of approximately 1,200. Over the past several years, WRCI has violated the maximum contaminant level for combined Radium 226/228 and has been operating under SCDHEC Consent Order No. 08-080-DW. To meet the requirements of the Consent Order, SCDOC will purchase the needed potable water supply for WRCI from HHRWC. At the present time, HHRWC cannot guarantee adequate water service to WRCI during peak demand periods without constructing the proposed improvements to its existing water supply capability.

Proposed Facilities: The attached figure shows the project location.

The proposed project will construct a supplemental water supply connection to the City of Sumter's existing 12-inch water transmission main at the intersection of US Highway 521 and Four Bridges Road. The installation will include the construction of a master meter, approximately 3,600 LF of 12-inch and 8-inch water mains, a 500 gallon per minute duplex booster pump station with associated piping, valves, electrical/instrumentation, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), emergency power source and various site improvements. The estimated total capital cost for the project is \$984,975.

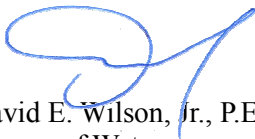
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

No long-term environmental impacts will result from the proposed activities. Implementation of the proposed project is not expected to violate any of the environmental crosscutting authorities that apply to projects receiving Federal assistance. The following crosscutting authorities were considered before arriving at this conclusion: important farmlands, wild and scenic rivers, floodplains, archaeological or historical sites, threatened or endangered species, national natural landmarks, sole source aquifers, sensitive coastal zone resources, and impaired air quality. Although wetlands and floodplains occur in the planning area, the proposed project will be installed along the road shoulder of US Highway 521, within its right-of-way, which will result in minimal impacts to these wetlands and floodplains. Furthermore, preconstruction contours will be restored. Short-term, minor disturbances associated with construction - such as traffic interference, noise, dust, vegetation loss, erosion and sedimentation - will be minimized through the use of best-management construction practices. The proposed project will be beneficial by providing a water supply that will be in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

COMMENTS

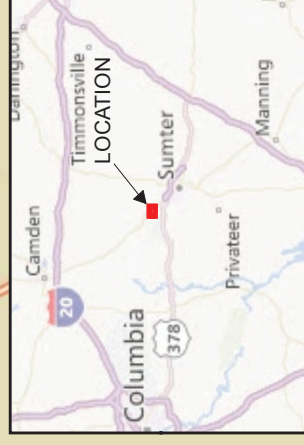
Comments in support or disagreement received within 30 days of the date of this FNSI will be evaluated before approval of the preliminary engineering report. If you wish to comment, please email Shawn Clarke at shawn.clarke@dhec.sc.gov or write to:








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David E. Wilson, Jr., P.E., Chief
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SRF Project 4320003-01 -- High Hills Rural Water Company New Booster Pump Station and Water Main Location Map



-  Proposed Booster Pump Station
-  Proposed Master Meter
-  Existing 10 inch Water Main
-  Existing 12 inch Water Main
-  Existing 10 inch Water Main
-  Existing 12 inch Water Main
-  Proposed 8 inch Water Main